

Appl. No. 10/715,752  
Atty. Docket No. CM2543CQ  
Amdt. dated June 27, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of March 2, 2006  
Customer No. 27752

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for applying an active material onto an article, series of articles or web of articles, comprising the steps of:
  - a) applying said active material to a surface of a first tool in the form of a multitude of beads, with a coater unit having a multitude of applicators that are in close proximity to the surface, and positioned above the surface;
  - b) heating the coater unit such that the active material is applied at a temperature of between 70 degrees C and 250 degrees C;
  - c) contacting the surface of the first tool containing the active material, with a coating blade which has an angle of between 5° and 40° with the tangent of the surface of the first tool, and which applies a constant pressure onto the surface with active material; and
  - d) transferring the active material from the surface of the first tool to an article, series of articles or web of articles, supported on a surface of a second tool and pressed against the surface of the first tool.
2. (Previously Presented) A process for applying an active material onto an article, series of articles or web of articles, comprising the steps of:
  - a) applying said active material to a surface of a first tool;
  - b) transferring said active material from the surface of the first tool to an article, series of articles or web of articles, supported on a surface of a second tool and pressed against the surface of the first tool, wherein the active material in step a) is applied in the form of a multitude of beads with a coater having a multitude of applicators, which are in close proximity to the surface of the

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first tool; wherein the coater is heated such that the active material is applied at a temperature between 70 degrees C and 250 degrees C.

3. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the first tool and the second tool are each rotating, and wherein at least the first rotating tool is a roll.
4. (Original) The process of claim 3 wherein the coater and the first tool are heated and the second tool is cooled.
5. (Original) The process of claim 3 wherein the temperature of the coater is at least 5°C less than the temperature of the surface of the first tool.
6. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 3 wherein the coater comprises a multitude of extruder-applicators, which provide a multitude of extruded beads of the active material, and wherein the extruder-applicators have a pitch of less than 15 mm.
7. (Original) The process of claim 3, wherein the surface of the second tool has a temperature of between 0°C and 30°C.
8. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 6 wherein the process is continuous, wherein the coater continuously applies a multitude of beads on the surface of the first rotating tool, wherein the articles are a continuous series or web of articles, and wherein the process has a speed of at least 20m/ min.
9. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein the active material is applied in an on-dot amount of at least 10g/m<sup>2</sup>.
10. (Original) The process of claim 3, wherein the surface of the second tool has a shore A hardness value from 25 to 90.

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11. (Original) The process of claim 3, wherein the process is a gravure printing process, and wherein the surface of the first tool has cavities to receive the active material.
12. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 11 wherein the cavities have a pitch of less than 2 mm and a depth of less than 500 microns.
13. (Original) The process of claim 3 wherein the web of articles is stretchable and is rotated around said second rotating tool, such that the exit angle of the web is between 30° and 70°.
14. (Original) The process of claim 7 wherein the temperature of the surface of the first tool is higher than the melting temperature of the articles, series of articles or web of articles.
- 15-21. (Cancelled).